

Notice of WAC revision

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY HEALTH Olympia, Washington 98504

August 16, 2005

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Janna Bardi, Immunization Program Manager

Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director, State Board of Health

SUBJECT: WAC 246-100-166 IMMUNIZATION OF CHILD CARE AND SCHOOL CHILDREN

AGAINST CERTAIN VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES

On July 13, 2005 the State Board of Health adopted revised rules for WAC 246-100-166 Immunization of Child Care and School Children Against Certain Vaccine-Preventable Diseases. The adopted rule is effective September 1, 2005.

The revisions made were:

- 1) to add varicella (chickenpox) to the list of vaccine-preventable diseases children must be immunized against—the new requirement applies to children under 13 years of age admitted to school or child care centers after July 1, 2006
- 2) to state that children can meet the varicella immunization requirement if they have had the vaccine, have had the disease, or can show evidence of immunity through seriological testing
- 3) to add a section giving the immunization program flexibility to develop implementation guidelines consistent with the national immunization guidelines and to develop modified implementation guidelines with the State Board of Health
- 4) to correct the abbreviated professional title for Doctor of Osteopathy to D.O.

The tentative plan for implementation includes an effective date of July 1, 2006 and screening as follows:

- Kindergarten entry
- 6th grade entry
- All children 19 months and older (through 12 years) who attend licensed child care and preschool

DOH will work on finalizing the implementation plan over the next several months in consultation with stake holders including the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Department of Social and Health Services and the State Board of Health staff. We will take that implementation plan back to the Board for approval prior to the July 1, 2006 effective date.

If you have questions, please contact Ruth McDougall, RN, Immunization Program, at 206-300-7951 or Ruth.McDougall@doh.wa.gov.